

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 119

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 123

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 119—Relative to the Polio Awareness Year.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 31, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 119, Soto. Polio Awareness Year.

This measure would designate 2006 as the Year of Polio Awareness, and would encourage Members of the Legislature to take immediate action to educate polio survivors and medical professionals in the United States about the cause and treatment of post-polio sequelae.

WHEREAS, As few as 57 percent of American children receive all doses of necessary vaccines during childhood, including the polio vaccine; and

WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that every child in the United States receive all doses of the inactivated polio vaccine; and

WHEREAS, The success of polio vaccines has caused people to forget the 1,630,000 Americans who were born before the development of vaccines and who had polio during the epidemics in the middle of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, At least 70 percent of paralytic survivors, and 40 percent of nonparalytic polio survivors, are developing post-polio sequelae, which are unexpected and often disabling symptoms that occur 35 years after the poliovirus attack that can include overwhelming fatigue, muscle weakness, muscle and joint pain, sleep disorders, heightened sensitivity to anesthesia, cold pain, and difficulty swallowing and breathing; and

WHEREAS, Research and clinical work by members of the International Post-Polio Task Force have discovered that post-polio sequelae can be treated, and even prevented, if polio survivors are taught to conserve energy and use assistive devices to stop damaging and killing the reduced number of overworked, poliovirus-damaged neurons in the spinal cord and brain that survived the polio attack; and

WHEREAS, Many medical professionals and polio survivors do not know of the existence of the post-polio sequelae, or of the available treatments; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Post-Polio Survivors Foundation includes educating medical professionals and the world's 20,000,000 polio survivors about post-polio sequelae by making known the research done by the Post-Polio Institute at New Jersey's Englewood Hospital, by putting

books like *The Polio Paradox* by Richard L. Bruno, H.D., Ph.D., in every library in America, and through television public service announcements like those provided by the National Broadcasting Company; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature recognizes the need for every child in America to be vaccinated against polio, and the need to educate polio survivors about post-polio sequelae and appropriate medical care; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature recognizes the 1,630,000 Americans who survived polio, as well as all those who suffer with post-polio sequelae; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature proclaims 2006 as “The Year of Polio Awareness” to promote vaccination of the poliovirus, to promote post-polio sequelae education and treatment, and to encourage Members of the Legislature to take immediate action to educate polio survivors and medical professionals in the United States about the cause and treatment of post-polio sequelae.